Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 /026 W

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O P 241636Z JAN 75 FM AMEMBASSY OSLO TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9213 INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE USOECD PARIS PRIORITY 1615 AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

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CORRECTEDCOPYFORTEXT

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: ENRG NO

SUBJ: IEA -- PROPOSED AGREEMENT WITH NORWAY

REF: (A) STATE 9363; (B) BRUSSELS 600; (C) OSLO 134

1. FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND CALLED ME OVER THIS MORNING (JANUARY 24) TO DISCUSS NORWEGIAN AFFILIATION WITH THE IEA. HE SAID THAT HE HAD TALKED WITH DAVIGNON EARLIER THAT DAY AND THAT DAVIGNON HAD CONFIRMED AGAIN THAT HE THOUGHT AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED AT THE DECEMBER MEETING OF THE IEA GOVERNING BOARD ON NORWEGIAN AFFILIATION, BUT THAT HE HAD RECEIVED FURTHER U.S. RESERVATIONS WHICH HE PROPOSED TO DISCUSS WITH FRYDENLUND WHEN THEY MEET JANUARY 29. HE ALSO REVIEWED WITH ME HIS UNDERSTANDING OF CONVERSATION WHICH FINANCE MINISTER KLEPPE HAD WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS IN WASHINGTON LAST WEEK. ONCE AGAIN WE FIND NORWEGIANS HAVE QUITE DIFFERENT INTERPRETATION OF WHAT HAS TRANS-PIRED IN TALKS WITH U.S. OFFICIALS THAN WE UNDERSTAND TO BE THE CASE. IN THIS INSTANCE, THEIR SOUNDINGS WITH THE CANADIANS HAVE ALSO PRODUCED A DIFFERENT IMPRESSION. I AM FINDING IT VERY DIFFICULT TO RESPOND EFFECTIVELY TO FRYDENLUND'S ARGUMENTS AND OBVIOUS DISTRESS OVER DIFFERENT INTERPRETATIONS OF U.S. CONFIDENTIAL

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POSITION SINCE I HAVE NOT RECEIVED OTHER THAN

HEARSAY REPORTS ON WHAT TRANSPIRED IN MEETING WITH KLEPPE IN WASHINGTON, AND MEETINGS WITH DAVIGNON IN BRUSSELS, OR WITH CANADIANS. SINCE FRYDENLUND MADE IT POINTEDLY CLEAR THAT HE WISHES TO MAINTAIN DIALOGUE WITH ME ON THIS SUBJECT, EVEN IF NEGOTIATIONS ARE CARRIED OUT IN BRUSSELS, IT REMAINS ESSENTIAL THAT I BE KEPT FULLY IN THE PICTURE.

- 2. ACCORDING TO KLEPPE, ENDERS AGREED THAT NO CHANGE IN THE ORIGINAL DRAFT AFFILIATION AGREEMENT REACHED AT THE DECEMBER IEA GOVERNING BOARD MEETING WILL BE NECESSARY, ALTHOUGH NORWAY WOULD MAKE A CLARIFYING STATE-MENT TO THE GOVERNING BOARD REGARDING ITS COMMITMENTS UNDER THE AGREEMENT. FRYDENLUND ASSUMED ANY SUCH STATE-MENT WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH THE AGREEMENT. KLEPPE ALSO SAID THAT ENDERS WAS SUPPOSED TO GIVE HIM A DRAFT OF THE U.S. PROPOSAL WHICH HE BELIEVED WOULD CONTAIN THE CLARIFYING STATEMENT BUT THAT NO SUCH STATEMENT HAD YET BEEN RECEIVED. FRYDENLUND SAID THAT HE UNDER-STOOD DAVIGNON HAS BEEN GIVEN A REVISED U.S. PROPOSAL AND ASKED ME TO OBTAIN IT FOR HIM FOR POSSIBLE CON-SIDERATION DURING A MEETING OF THE NORWEGIAN CABINTE ON MONDAY AND TUESDAY, JANUARY 27 AND 28, AND IN PREPARATION FOR HIS MEETING WITH DAVIGNON ON JANUARY 29.
- 3. FRYDENLUND SAID THAT NORWAY HAD CHECKED WITH THE CANADIAN EMBASSY IN BRUSSELS AND WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY IN OTTAWA REGARDING THE CANADIAN'S POSITION ON NORWEGIAN AFFILIATION UNDER THE DECEMBER DRAFT AFFILIATION AGREEMENT. THE CANADIANS SAID THAT, ALTHOUGH NORWEGIAN TERMS OF AFFILIATION WOULD CAUSE THEM PROBLEMS DOMESTICALLY, THEY DID NOT INTEND TO USE THESE TERMS TO REVISE THE CONDITIONS OF THEIR OWN AFFILIATIONS WITH THE IEA.
- 4. SINCE I HAVE NOT RECEIVED PROVISIONAL U.S. DRAFT OF GOVERNING BOARD STATEMENT GIVEN DAVIGNON ON JANUARY 18, (STATE 014791) AND DID NOT WANT TO SPEAK AT CROSS-PURPOSES WITH WHAT HE MIGHT BE SAYING IN BRUSSELS, I TILD FRYDENLUND SIMPLY THAT WE STILL SOUGHT A REVISION OF ARTICLE I ALONG THE LINES OF THE DRAFT I CONFIDENTIAL

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GAVE HIM ON JANUARY 10 (OSLO 134). I NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT WE MIGHT BE WILLING TO SHORTEN OUR REVISED VERSION OF ARTICLE I TO LIMIT IT TO MAKING CLEAR THE PRESUMPTION OF POSITIVE ACTION BY NORWAY EXCEPT IN CASES OF CRITICAL NATIONAL INTEREST. UNDER THIS FORMULATION, NORWAY'S OTHER COMMITMENTS, E.G., TO SUPPLY ADDITIONAL QUANTITIES OF OIL, WOULD BE SPECIFIED IN AN AGREED GOVERNING BOARD STATEMENT. I ALSO SAID

THAT MY IMPRESSION WAS THAT THE EASY TERMS OF NORWEGIAN AFFILIATION UNDER DECEMBER DRAFT AGREEMENT COULD CAUSE THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT MORE DIFFICULTY THAN THE INDIVIDUALS NORWAY HAD CONSULTED AND HAD INDICATED.

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O P 241636Z JAN 75 FM AMEMBASSY OSLO TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9214 INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE USOECD PARIS PRIORITY 1616 AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

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FRYDENLUND TOLD ME THAT THE TERMS OF NORWEGIAN AFFILIATION HAD BEEN DISCUSSED BY THE CABINET WHILE KLEPPE WAS IN WASHINGTON, THAT BRATTELI HAD INDICATED THEN THAT REOPENING THE TERMS OF NORWEGIAN AFFILIA-TION WOULD CAUSE SERIOUS PROBLEMS AND HENCE NORWEY MUST GO BACK TO THE ORIGINAL DRAFT AGREEMENT WORKED OUT IN DECEMBER. WHILE THERE IS OBVIOUSLY A SELF-SERVING DIMENSION TO FRYDENLUND(S DISCUSSION OF DOMESTIC DIFFICULTIES, HE IS EVIDENTLY CONCERNED. IN LATER DISCUSSION TODAY WITH DCM. DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS VIBE EXPLAINED THAT MAY HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY WORRYING FRYDENLUND THIS MORNING, ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT SPECIFICALLY MENTION IT. JANUARY 22 LABOR NEWSPAPER ARBEIDERBLADET REPORTED THAT SERIES OF YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS FROM CHRISTIAN PEOPLES, CENTER, VENSTRE, SV AND RED FRONT, ALONG WITH SOME ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS, HAD ADDRESSED MESSAGE TO STORTING PRESIDENT EXPRESSING DISAPPOINTMENT AT ABSENCE OF OPPORTUNITY TO HOLD AN OPEN DEBATE OVER THE CONSEQUENCES FOR NORWAY OF AFFILIATION WITH IEA. AND ASKING WHAT ASSOCIATION MEANS IN TERMS OF POSSIBLE

PRESSURES WHICH MAY BE BROUGHT TO BEAR ON NORWAY. AT A MEETING YESTERDAY WITH CHAIRMAN OFTEDAL OF STORTING FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE TODAY, VIBE WAS TOLD THAT SV LEADER BARIT AAS HAD INDICATED SHE WAS CONSIDERING RAISING IN STORTING QUESTION CONFIDENTIAL

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OF COMPATIBILITY OF MEMBERSHIP IN IEA WITH ARTICLE 25 OF NORWEGIAN CONSTITUTION RE MEMBERSHIP OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. VIBE SAID GOVERNMENT HAD HOPED TO WORK OUT AGREEMENT BY JANUARY 15 BEFORE OPPONENTS COULD GATHER FORCES FOR A COUNTER-ATTACK. AS WAS NOW HAPPENING.

- 6. WHILE FRYDENLUND SAID HE HAD NO OBJECTION TO SEEING NEGOTIATIONS CONDUCTED WITH DAVIGNON IN BRUSSELS, AS DAVIGNON HAD REQUESTED, HE STRESSED THAT HE CONSIDERED IT IMPORTANT TO MAINTAIN DIALOGUE WITH ME ON THIS SUBJECT TO ENSURE THAT THERE IS NO MISUNDERSTANDING. HE MADE THIS REMARK IN RESPONSE TO MY STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING THAT NORWAY WISHED THE NEGOTIATIONS TO BE HELD IN BRUSSELS.
- 7. THE APPARENT CONFUSION REFLECTED IN THE ABOVE REMARKS BY FRYDENLUND, AGAINST A BACKGROUND OF RENEWED INTERNAL DEBATE, IS OBVIOUSLY CAUSING DIFFICULTIES OF DECISION WITHIN THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT. I AM LESS OPTIMISTIC NOW THAN I WAS ON JANUARY 10 THAT NORWAY WILL ACCEPT MODIFICATION OF ARTICLE I OF THE DECEMBER DRAFT AGREE-MENT. IT IS VERY APPARENT, HOWEVER, THAT THE LONGER THIS DISCUSSION OF ARTICLE I DRAGS OUT, THE MORE EN-TRENCHED THE NORWEGIANS WILL BECOME IN THEIR POSITION. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE DO NOT APPEAR TO KNUCKLE UNDER NORWEGIAN PRESSURE. IT IS EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAT THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT DOES NOT APPEAR TO STIFFEN ITS STANCE AS A RESULT OF LEFTIST AGITATION. THE SOONER WE CONCLUDE THESE NEGOTIATIONS ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, THE BETTER. THE NORWEGIANS NEED TO BE TOLD CLEARLY, THEREFORE, WHETHER OR NOT WE WILL ACCEPT THEIR AFFILIATION UNDER THE DECEMBER DRAFT AGREEMENT AND, IF NOT, WHAT CHANGES WE ARE INSISTING UPON.
- 8. BECAUSE OF FRYDENLUND'S DESIRE TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER WITH ME, AS INDICATED ABOVE, I BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT THAT I BE KEPT FULLY INFORMED OF ALL DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO THIS MATTER. I AM CONFIDENT HE WILL RAISE THIS QUESTION IN DETAIL WITH ME AGAIN ON MONDAY, JANUARY 27. IN PARTICULAR, HE WILL WISH TO DISCUSS OUR LATEST REVISION OF ARTICLE I.

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9. ACTION REQUESTED: THE DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO SEND ME BY NIACT CABLE (TO REACH ME BY OPENING OF BUSINESS MONDAY, SINCE OUR CODE ROOM IS CLOSED ON THE WEEKEND EXCEPT FOR NIACTS): (1) THE TEXT OF THE PROVISIONAL U.S. DRAFT OF THE GOVERNING BOARD STATEMENT AND ANY OTHER PERTINENT MATERIAL GIVEN TO DAVIGNON JANUARY 18 OR LATER; (2) A REPORT ON SECRETARY ENDER'S CONVERSATION WITH KLEPPE ON THE IEA; AND (3) ANY FURTHER DETAILS AVAILABLE OF DAVIGNON'S ACTIVITIES AND CONSULTATIONS RE NORWEGIAN AFFILIATIONS. BYRNE

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